

(New York Philharmonic, 8796th concert, p. 3)

Strauss' Alpine Symphony. The opening march of Mahler's Symphony No. 6 is similar to a section of Bruckner's Symphony No. 1 and Mahler's Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Symphonies all contain quotations from Kindertotenlieder. "Alma will appear in Symphony No. 6 in the middle section of the first movement. Her theme will appear and Mahler will present a portrait of her" and "In the middle of this movement Mahler will take us to the mountains. Mahler sees them as a romanticist and Strauss sees them as a realist" said Fritz. "The Alps are alive. They put you in contact with things which hardly can be discussed" and "We know now that this is a grim march and it goes on and on and then we come to a chorale which sounds exactly like Bruckner. Then Alma's theme and then the celeste--the first time in Mahler--and then certain cymbal sounds and then the cow bells which Mahler imitates by using different keys--E flat, F sharp, G" said Fritz. Richard Strauss the realist and Mahler the romanticist and the former would not rely on the orchestra to imitate the sound of the cowbells but would actually use cow-bells and Strauss would also use a wind machine and how far is this from the cubist metro tickets that have been pasted to the surface of the canvas. "The beginning of the Alpine Symphony contains one of the first chord clusters ever written. In that cluster is the motif of night and the motif of day and daylight is in the major. In the first few minutes you will hear the conversion of night into day. It is so realistically done that I won't even have to tell you" said Fritz. Strauss and realism and in describing the hunting party in the forest Strauss uses sixteen horns and the orchestral score as written contains what Fritz calls "a few sour notes" and Richard Strauss wrote those sour notes for the sake of realism and realistic finish. "Strauss even presents the flies in the meadows by means of very high oboes and piccolos. People are milking cows and trying to sell their milk to you. The thing is utterly alive" said Fritz and no one seems to have intercepted that unintentional "utterly" "udder" and I'm sure it was not intended on Fritz's part. "If we do enter the glacier the orchestra will sound like glass" and